

I am applying for my neighbor, co-worker, and Friend. The Funks are foster parents who have taken in many children who families have abandoned or abused them. Early June they got a phone call from a on-call worker who had picked their name off of a list because she felt "inspired" that they would be the best option. At the time the Funk family was not on this list because they were on "hold" status for a sibling group.

The case worker informed them that she had a newborn whose 17 year old mother wanted nothing to do with her, and all other extended family also wanted to abandon this child because they deemed her imperfect. The baby was not even given a name. Lacy Funk was the first to be told and she called Chris while he was at work to notify him of the situation. The Funks had a baby boy already and had decided a year prior no babies until their son was older. She asked her husband to think about it the remaining few hours he was at work. Once he was home he wanted complete details of this baby girl no one wanted. As soon as Lacy with tears in her eyes stated that not one person had bonded or held this baby in the 4 hours she was on this earth Chris bounced up and said call the social worker right now. We are taking her. It was 10 at night. The social worker had given them her personal cell number in hopes the Funks would say yes. Once again the Funk family once again decided to bring one of God's children into their home. As soon as they walked into the NICU full of nurses tending to one wire or another and looking around at the other tiny babies alone in her room they knew who Angelica was without anyone even pointing to her. Not because she was imperfect. Just the contrary. She was the most beautiful baby girl ever. Chris was inspired by her name before even reaching St. Joe's Hospital and looked at Lacy and said "How's Angelica Rose sound to you?" Lacy shook her head without a word and became mom again to another beautiful baby. Lacy and Chris were not blessed to have more than one biological baby and knew Heavenly Father was sending the children they had to them to fill that hole Lacy felt. Angelica was their baby before they even received that phone call.

What makes this story truly special is that the baby, who the Funks named Angelica, was born without the majority of her brain. Hydrenancephaly is the name of the condition. She had only the mid-brain which is only primitive life functions. She was not expected to live past a month; she made it to 10 weeks before she finally succumbed to her condition. The Doctors told the Funks don't get attached she wont survive 3 days a max of 10. Their Daughter lived 10 peaceful weeks.

The state will only give her a plot and a number; others have helped with food and time donations. But the one thing the state won't provide, and they can't cover is a headstone. Please let's help this family, and this child.